윤미경

Mi-Kyung Yun

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BRIDE of the WATER GOD

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BRIDE of the WATER GOD
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VIBRANTLY STAND THE C[illegible]
OF CRIMSON, FLAX, A[illegible]
CHEEKS STAINED WITH [illegible]
SOAK UP FALLEN T[illegible]
SHE CUTS THE VERMILION H[illegible]
WITH SCISSORS.
THE FLAGSHIP OF THE BANISHED
RETURNS TO PORT, LOADED
WITH ANXIOUS FACES.
BUT THE NEWLYWED GIRL
SHINES BRIGHTLY,
DRUNK WITH THE ENERGY OF
THE BLOSSOMING SPRING.

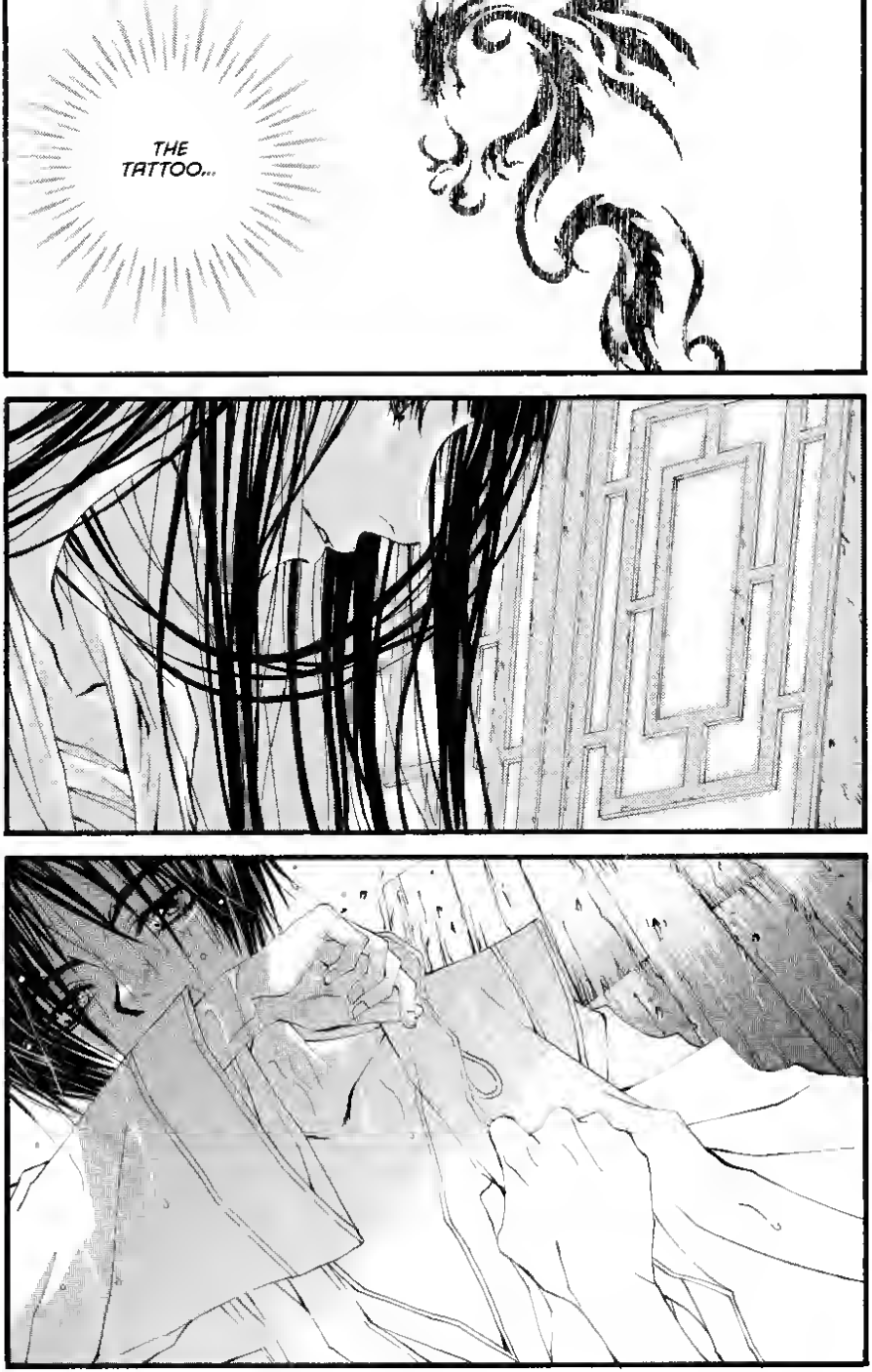
YOU WERE HEAVY-HEARTED
IN SANG-SAN AND JIN-RYUNG.
A WILD POMEGRANATE FLOWER BLOSSOMED,
RED, IN YOUR PATH.
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO ME IN YOUR POEM?
YOU WROTE THAT THE FLOWER REMINDED YOU
OF A SKIRT WHICH POMEGRANATE SEEDS
HAD STAINED RED.
WHEN YOU SAID THAT TO ME, I STOOD IN FRONT
OF SOME FLOWERS AND SOMEHOW FOUND MYSELF
MISSING MY OWN SELF.
TODAY, I STOOD IN FRONT OF THE SAME FLOWERS,
BUT NOW I ONLY MISS YOU.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I THINK OF YOU,
I KNOW I CAN NEVER SEE YOU, AND I FEEL SAD.
THE SUN SETS, THE WIND BLOWS, AND THE RED PETALS
ARE SCATTERED.
.
--EXCERPT FROM "SAN-SEOK-RYU"
BY BAEK GEO-I

HABAEK...
I MISS HIM.
TOTAL HONESTY CAN BE FOUND IN WORDS SHARED BETWEEN LOVERS THAT WILL SOON PART.

THE WORDS SWORN BETWEEN THE TWO ON JULY SEVENTH WERE WHISPERED IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT A LONG LIFETIME BEFORE...
"IF WE COULD BE BIRDS, FLYING UP IN THE SKY, HOPEFULLY, WE SHALL BECOME BE-IK-JO.* IF WE COULD BE TREES ON THE GROUND, WE SHALL BECOME YEON-RI-JI.*"
NO MATTER HOW LONG HEAVEN AND EARTH LAST, THEY MUST MEET THEIR END SOMEDAY, THIS SAD HOPE FOR LOVE WILL BE ENDLESS.
--EXCERPT FROM "JANG-HAN-GA" BY BAEK GEO-I

BE-IK JO
A LEGENDARY PAIR OF MALE AND FEMALE BIRDS EACH WITH ONE EYE AND ONE WING AND ALWAYS FLYING TOGETHER

YEON-RI-JI
TWO TANGLED TREES LOOKING LIKE ONE TREE


THE
TATTOO...

WHERE'S HIS TATTOO...?!
WHY'RE YOU STARING OFF INTO SPACE LIKE THAT?
?!

AH...SORRY.
IT WAS NOTHING.
IT WAS STUPID OF ME TO GET MY HOPES UP LIKE THAT...
I WAS THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE.
...HOPING THAT HABAEK AND MUI ARE THE SAME PERSON.

BY THE WAY... WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU HAD SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO SAY.
.....

HOW ABOUT GOING BACK HOME?
YOU'RE ASKING SO SUDDENLY... IT'S STRANGE.
KSHFF 덜컥
I MEAN...

HABAEK-NIM,* YOU HAVE A GUEST.
*NIM: KOREAN HONORIFIC, SIMILAR TO "SIR" OR "MA'AM."
A GUEST? WHO IS IT?
SOAH, GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM. WE CAN TALK ABOUT THIS LATER.
GOING... BACK HOME?
WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?
EH...
TAKK

WHO IS SHE?
IS THIS HABAEK'S GUEST?
A WOMAN?
저벅 TOK
저벅 TOK
저벅 TOK

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SPYING ON HER. WHAT AM I DOING?
WELL, I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER... I MEAN, THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH A LITTLE CURIOSITY.
KRIK
!!

IT'S
BEEN A WHILE,
HASN'T IT,
HABAEK?

I'VE MISSED YOU.
NAKBIN...

씩
SMIRK
오!
AH!

THERE WAS A STORY MY GRANDMOTHER TOLD ME WHEN I WAS LITTLE...
SO WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GIRL IN THE STORY...?
IT WAS A STORY ABOUT A GIRL WHO WAS TO BE SACRIFICED TO A BRUTAL DRAGON GOD TO SAVE HER VILLAGE.
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
IS IT A STORY WITH A HAPPY ENDING...
...OR...
THMP
...MURA-NIM.
AH! I'M SORRY...

SO... HABAEK ASKED YOU TO GO BACK HOME?
YES...
AND... WILL YOU?
I'M SURE IT'LL BE NICE TO SEE YOUR FAMILY AGAIN... BUT IF...
I HAVE NO CHOICE.
NAKBIN IS REAL, AND I'M JUST... JUST A PHONY...
SPSHAAA
...IF YOU EVER FEEL LIKE COMING BACK, YOU DON'T NEED TO THINK TWICE ABOUT IT.
YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE.

HONESTLY, I THOUGHT THAT YOU DESPISED ME.
THINKING BACK, I WAS NAIVE...
I'M SORRY.
YOU WERE HARSH ON ME BECAUSE YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME...

I'VE MISSED YOU, HABAEK.
WHY ARE YOU SO QUIET?
LOOK-- ENOUGH OF THIS.

MY SOVEREIGN.
WELL, THAT WAS NO FUN.
YOU COULD'VE JUST PLAYED ALONG WITH IT. NOT A SHRED OF WARMTH IN YOU...
WELL, WHY DID YOU SHOW UP HERE POSING AS NAKBIN, ANYWAY?
I HAD TO COME HERE BECAUSE YOU NEVER VISIT ME.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING TO DO THIS TIME...
...BUT YOU'D BETTER STOP.

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU CAN NEVER TAKE THE PLACE OF HABAEK'S BRIDE.
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE.
HMF!

AND YOU'RE THE RIGHT PERSON TO BE SAYING THAT TO ME, ARE YOU?
YOU-- OF ALL PEOPLE TRYING TO COME OFF AS A SAMARITAN...? QUITE PRETENTIOUS!

IT WAS *YOU*, AFTER ALL, WHO KILLED NAKBIN...

Bride of the Water God

...AND IT'S *YOU* WHO SHOULD WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULDN'T CONFUSE YOURSELF ABOUT...
...SHE IS *NOT* NAKBIN.

SORAH CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT YOU'RE REALLY DOING.
SHE'S NAIVE AND TAKES EVERYTHING YOU DO AT FACE VALUE.
WELL, YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT TOO MUCH...
...BECAUSE I'M NOT GOING TO SAY ANYTHING.

YOU KNOW, I'VE *HATED* YOU SINCE WE FIRST MET.
MY, MY! AREN'T WE HARSH?

I THINK WE HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN YOU'D LIKE TO ADMIT.
WE'RE BOTH *UGLIER* PEOPLE BECAUSE WE'VE NEVER BEEN LOVED, WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?
SO... MAYBE YOU DON'T HATE ME, BUT--
--YOU REALLY HATE *YOURSELF,* RIGHT?

P/P 우둑
P/P 우두둑..
KRCH 사박
KRCH
VIRGIN SNOW IS DIRTIED...

...AS IT IS STAINED WITH RED.
THE WHITER AND MORE PRISTINE THE SNOW...
...THE QUICKER THE STAIN SOAKS IN...
...UNTIL IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO IMAGINE WHAT IT ORIGINALLY LOOKED LIKE.

HUMANS ARE FRAGILE CREATURES.
THEY AREN'T EVEN ABLE TO SEE THE MORNING OF THEIR *ONE HUNDREDTH* YEAR.

IT'S FUTILE TO BEFRIEND THEM, AS THEY DIE SO YOUNG AND LEAVE US BEHIND
THAT'S WHY I HATE HUMANS.
HA HA!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
I SAW HER EARLIER.

SHE'S A PRETTY GIRL.
STILL YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL-- SHE REMINDED ME A LITTLE OF NAKBIN AT THE TIME.
BUT WHAT DOES HER BEAUTY MATTER? ONE HUNDRED YEARS TO HUMANS COMES LIKE THE NEXT DAWN TO US.
IT'S INEVITABLE-- SHE'LL GET OLD ALONE, ROT, AND DISAPPEAR. YOU'LL BE LEFT BEHIND ONCE AGAIN.

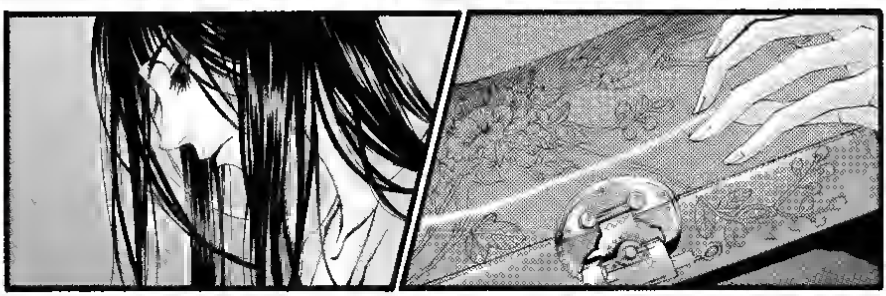
I DON'T THINK YOU UNDER-STAND...
...SHE MEANS NOTHING TO ME.

...SO YOU NEEDN'T INVOLVE YOURSELF IN THIS.
I'LL SEND HER BACK SOON...
YOUR WORDS ARE TRANS-PARENT.

"SHE IS MY WIFE."
DON'T YOU REMEMBER SAYING THAT? EVERYONE KNOWS YOU SAID THOSE WORDS.
DAMN. HE MADE IT BACK *ALIVE* AFTER ALL...
.....

QUIT PLAYING GAMES.
TELL ME WHY YOU'RE REALLY HERE.

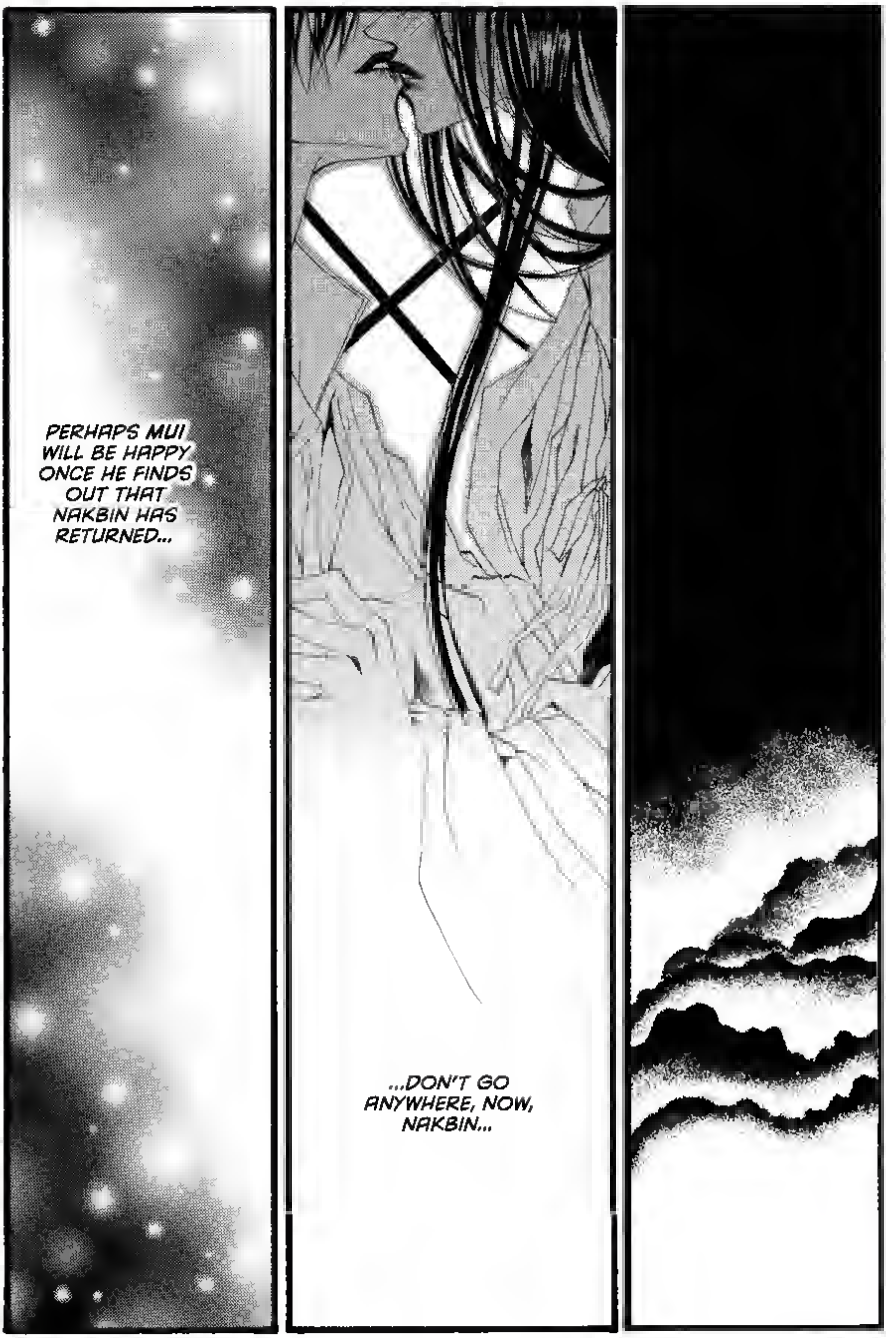
Tsss

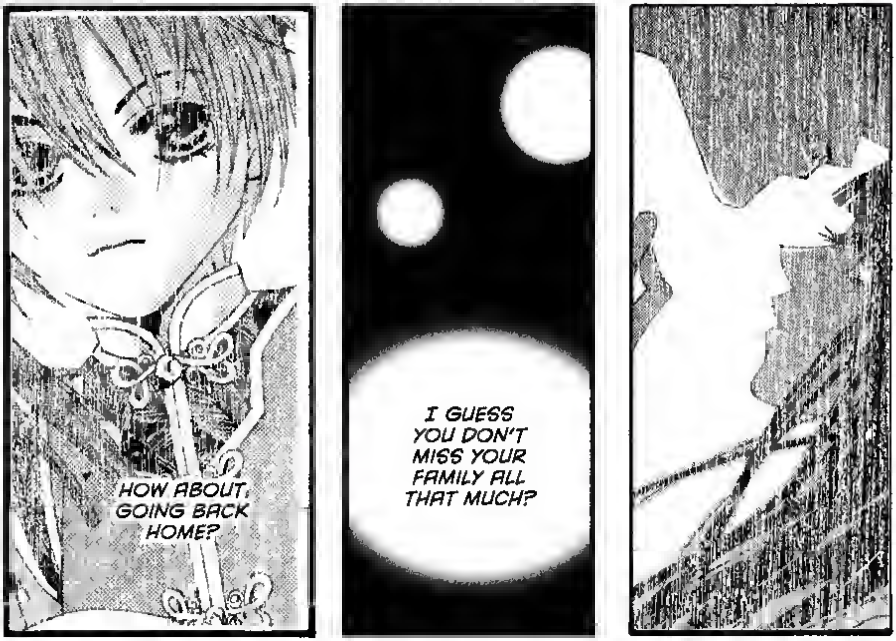


KTAK
IT'S A LITTLE LATE, BUT THIS IS A WELCOMING GIFT FOR YOUR ARRIVAL TO SUGUK.

SWFF
첨벙...
KSPLISSHH

THERE WAS NO...
...TATTOO...
SPLISH
WHAT WAS I EXPECTING ...?
HE WANTS ME TO GO BACK HOME...
...BECAUSE NAKBIN IS BACK... AND HE DOESN'T NEED ME?


PERHAPS MUI WILL BE HAPPY ONCE HE FINDS OUT THAT NAKBIN HAS RETURNED...
...DON'T GO ANYWHERE, NOW, NAKBIN...



IF...JUST IF...

...SOMEONE'S CAUGHT DECEIVING A GOD...

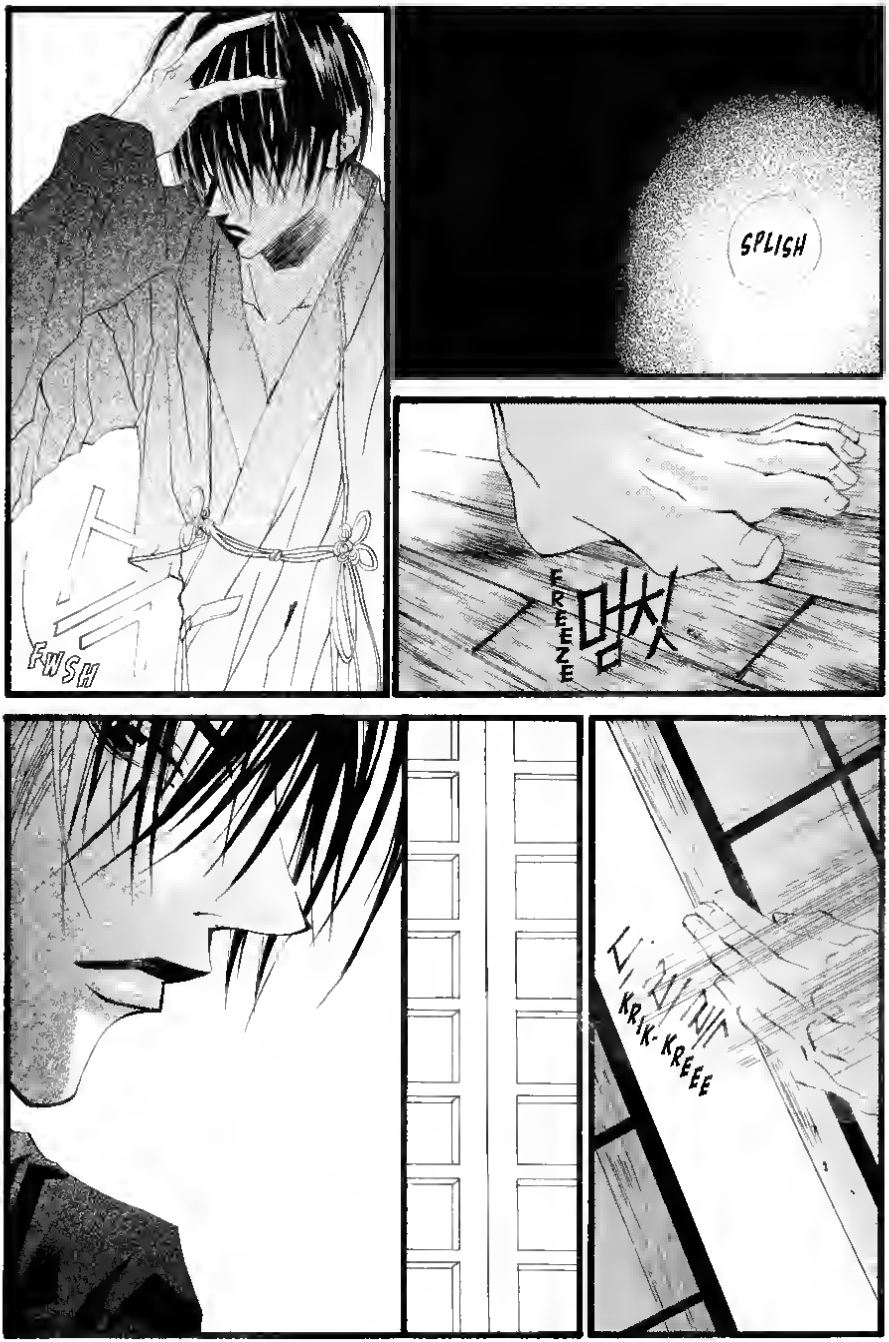
...WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?

THE BRIDE OF THE WATER GOD HAS BEEN CHOSEN.
IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, TELL ME. I'LL HELP YOU ANYTIME.
I AM SORRY, SWEETHEART. IT CAN'T BE HELPED, YOU KNOW?
YOU CAN DO THIS, CAN'T YOU? FOR THE GREATER GOOD...

SOMEBODY HELP ME.
PLEASE...
끄르륵
KRIK-KREEE

WITH HABAEK'S REAL WIFE DEAD, WILL YOU PLEASE BE THE REPLACEMENT BRIDE FOR THE WATER GOD?
SOAH?

SOAH?
KRIK-KREEE
SHE'S NOT HERE...


FWSH
SPLISH
FREEZE
KRIK-KREEE

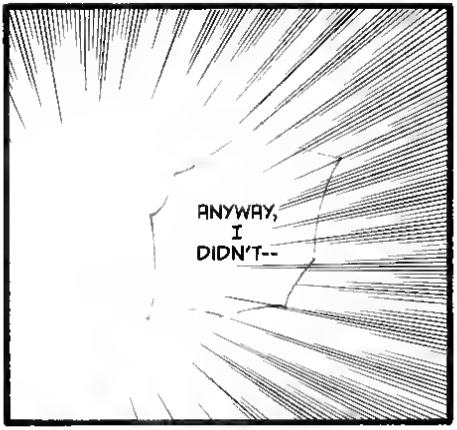
KYAAAAAA!!
GET OUT!! NOW!!
IF YOU WERE *HERE,* WHY DIDN'T YOU ANSWER ME WHEN I CALLED?
.....
WHAT?

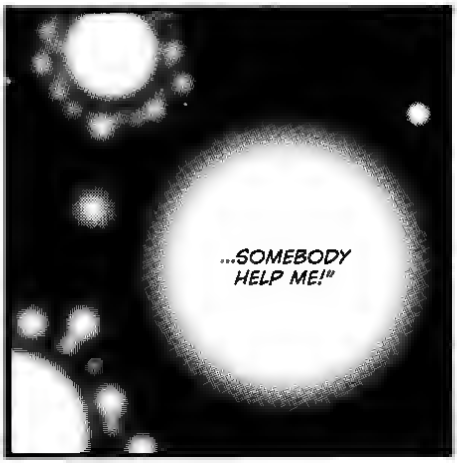
DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
UH... NO.
.....
WELL, I'M JUST GOING TO TAKE A LOOK AROUND. BE RIGHT BACK.
KTAK
?
WSHWWAAA
WSHAAA
FWOOSH
HUYE...

...BEEN A WHILE, HASN'T IT?
YOU LOOK GREAT. HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
WSHAAA
FWOOSH

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU!
DON'T YOU KNOW HOW *RUDE* IT IS TO BARGE INTO SOMEONE'S ROOM WITHOUT KNOCKING FIRST?
I CAME HERE TO HELP YOU-- BECAUSE YOU CALLED FOR HELP!
I DON'T REMEMBER CALLING FOR YOU!
YOU'RE LYING TO ME TO GET IN HERE, AREN'T YOU?
YOU DID CALL ME.

I THINK YOU'RE HEARING WHAT YOU WANT TO HEAR!
NO-- I *HEARD* YOU.





BUT
I WASN'T
THINKING
ALOUD..

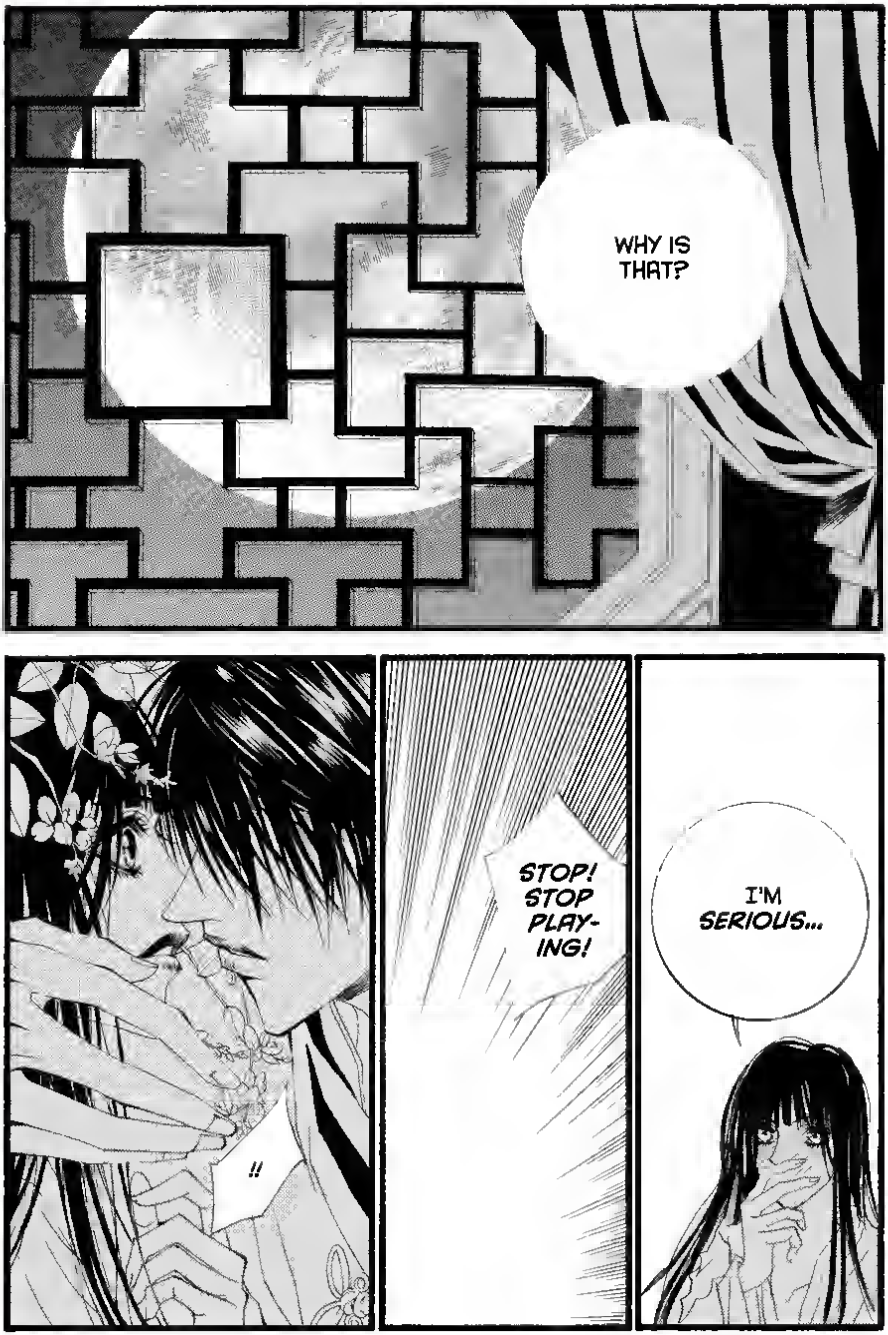
ANYWAY, I REALLY DID HEAR YOU.
FWISH
AND YOU...
...YOU *ASKED* FOR HELP... I DIDN'T COME JUST TO LOOK AT YOUR UGLY BODY.
IT WAS *YOU* WHO SAT LIKE A CAT, SPYING ON ME WHILE I WAS BATHING!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT WAS INTEN-TIONAL!
ANYONE CAN SEE YOU WHEN YOU BATHE OUT IN THE OPEN!
OR... PERHAPS YOU WERE SEEKING THE ATTENTION OF SOME-ONE ELSE?
WHA --?!

SO, THAT TIME, THE ONE WHO TOOK ME BACK TO MY ROOM--
HABAEK?
--WAS MUI.
THOUGH HIS WORDS CAN BE HARSH, HE IS ALWAYS KIND TO ME.
BUT...
...DOES MUI KNOW...
...THAT SHE CAME BACK?
WELL... MUI...
WAIT! WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING HERE?
TAE-EUL-JIN-IN-NIM SAID THAT SHE DIED.
WHAT?

DON'T GO ANYWHERE NOW, NAKBIN...
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CALLED ME. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY-- SPEAK UP.
THERE'S NO REASON TO MENTION THAT NAKBIN'S RETURNED.
NOTHING... NEVER MIND...
WAIT. MUI, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS, BUT--
THEN DON'T SAY ANYTHING.
휘이잉-
HWWOOO

WHY ARE YOU SO NICE TO ME?

IT WAS *YOU* WHO TOOK ME FROM THAT ROOM, RIGHT?
AND...
...WHENEVER I NEED HELP, YOU'RE THERE FOR ME.
IT WAS *YOU* WHO SAVED ME AT THE MARKET THE OTHER DAY...
...AND SHOWED ME THE CHEON RIVER.
WELL?
FWISH!
.....

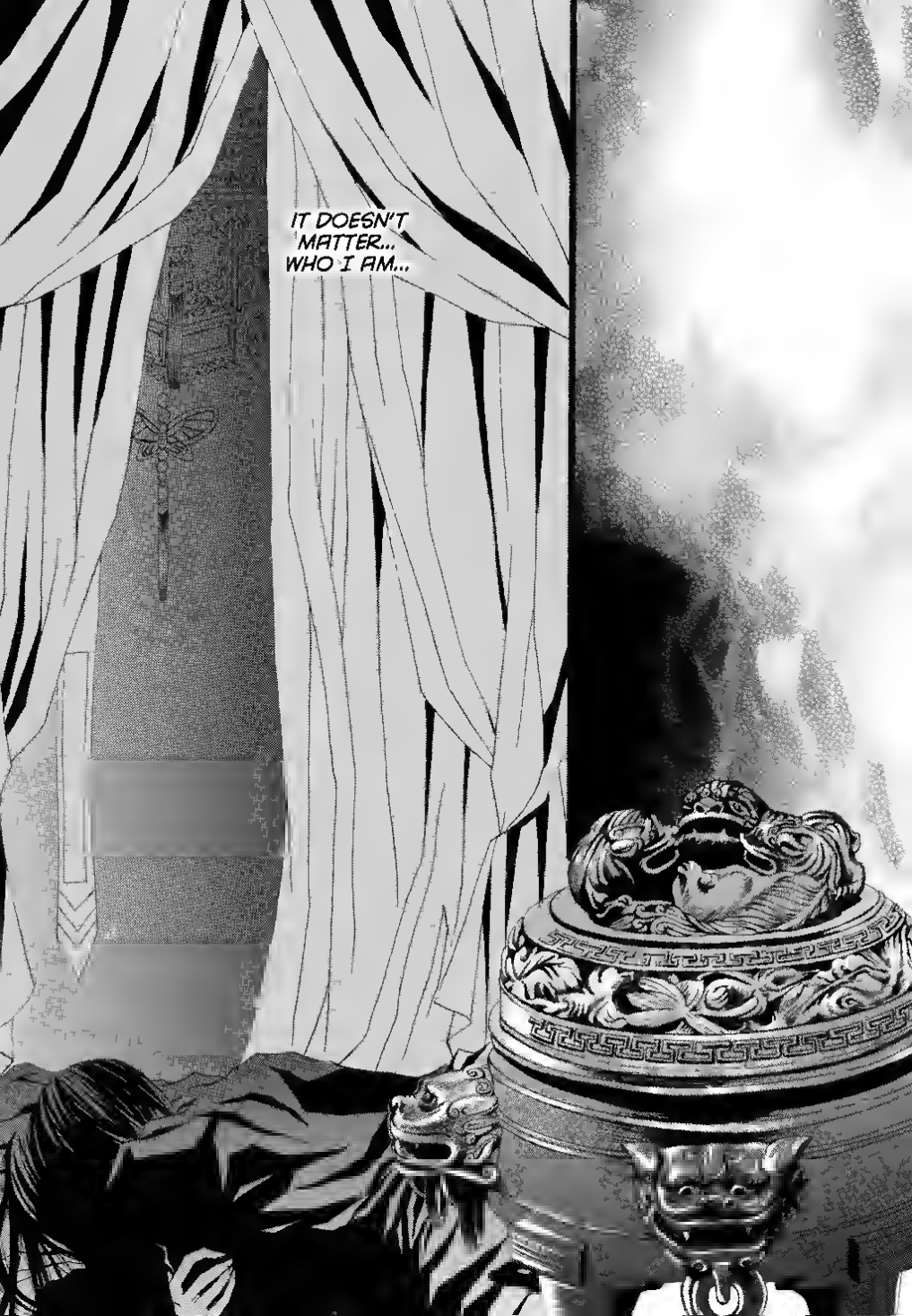

WHY IS THAT?
!!
STOP! STOP PLAY-ING!
I'M SERIOUS...

SNNCH
KTHMPP

LET GO OF ME.
STOP PLAY-ING!
?!
NO!!
ISN'T THIS WHAT YOU WANTED?

-SNIFF/-

DON'T GET CONFUSED. IT'S NOT YOU-- I'D DO THIS TO ANYONE.
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU ARE HABAEK'S BRIDE.
DO YOU WANNA KNOW WHY I'VE BEEN SO NICE TO YOU?
I WANTED TO SEE YOU IN PAIN.
HIS WORDS ARE SO HARSH... HIS KISSES SO SOFT.


IT DOESN'T MATTER... WHO I AM...

HABAEK! WHERE'S SOAH?
SHE WENT BACK HOME.

WHISPER WHISPER

I DON'T...
...REMEMBER...

풍덩
SPLOOSH
부글
부글
LU
UB

I CAN'T BREATHE...
THE PAIN!
부글부글
BLUB BLUB BLUB
AH... RIGHT...
MY FATHER GAVE ME UP FOR MONEY, AND I WAS SACRIFICED TO BECOME THE BRIDE OF THE WATER GOD.

WSSHWAAA
A CHILD?
WAIT!

DON'T GO!
YOU...
...YOU ARE...

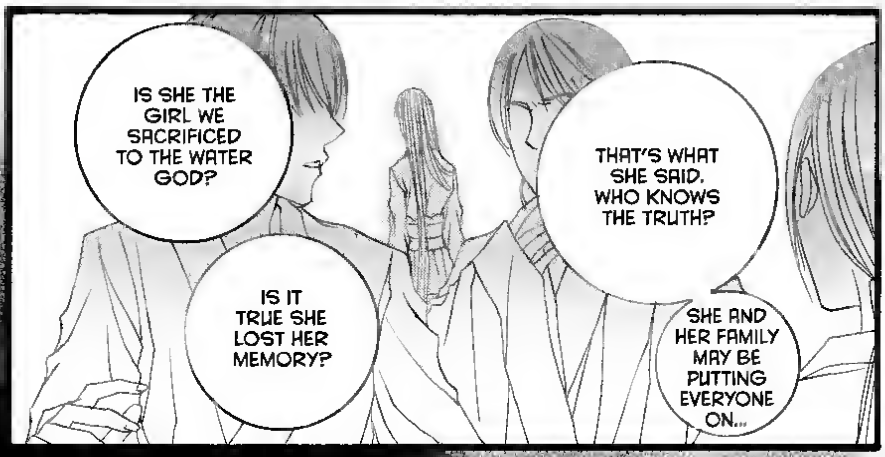
AAH!
HFF!
WHAT WAS I DREAMING ABOUT?
I CAN'T REMEMBER...
IT FEELS LIKE... I'M FORGETTING SOMETHING IMPORTANT...

KA-KRA-SH!
?!
I TOLD YOU TO BRING MORE BOOZE!
YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH! YOU'RE DRUNK!

DAMN! YOU BITCHES ARE USELESS!
SHE SHOULDN'T BE HERE. SHE SHOULD'VE DIED!
YOU NEED TO BE GRATEFUL THAT THE GODS DELIVERED HER BACK TO US. WE NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET HER GO IN THE FIRST PLACE!
YOU THINK I DID THAT JUST FOR ME?
WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO *NOW*? YOU KNOW PEOPLE WILL COME ASKING FOR THEIR MONEY BACK!
DO YOU HAVE THAT MONEY? HUH? DO YOU?!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAMBLED THE MONEY AWAY...
DON'T YOU DARE TALK TO ME LIKE THAT!
SKRASSH
HONEY, PLEASE!
KRASH
SOAH.
YOU WON'T GO ANYWHERE, RIGHT? DON'T GO. STAY WITH US, PLEASE.

NO, I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
WE'LL BE TOGETHER FROM NOW ON.
LOOK AT HER.
GOSSIP
GOSSIP
수군
MURMUR
수군
MURMUR
THE RUMORS ARE TRUE.
수군
MURMUR


IS SHE THE GIRL WE SACRIFICED TO THE WATER GOD?
IS IT TRUE SHE LOST HER MEMORY?
THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID. WHO KNOWS THE TRUTH?
SHE AND HER FAMILY MAY BE PUTTING EVERYONE ON...

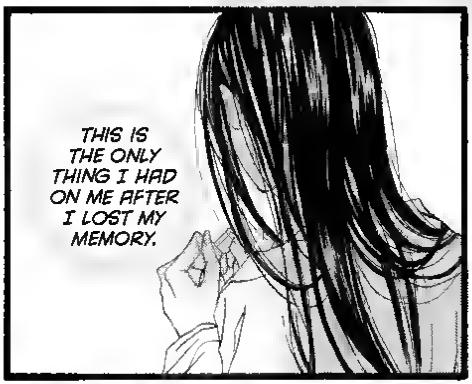
SHE MIGHT'VE PLANNED TO DISAPPEAR AND COME BACK AFTER EVERYONE FORGOT ABOUT HER...

I HEARD HER FAMILY MADE A LOT OF MONEY FOR IT...

THAT'S HAPPENED BEFORE, REMEMBER? WITH THOSE RUN-AWAY BRIDES...?

SHE'S GOT A LOT O' NERVE! NOW SHE'S WALKING AROUND LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED.

WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? WHY CAN'T I REMEMBER?



PART OF ME WANTS TO REMEMBER, BUT ANOTHER PART THINKS SOME THINGS ARE BETTER LEFT FORGOTTEN.

I FEEL LIKE THERE WILL BE A LOT FOR ME TO BE AFRAID OF... IF I REMEMBER...
...SO I'D RATHER NOT REMEMBER ANYTHING.
THIS IS SCARY.
쾅
BTAMM
쾅쾅
THUMP
THUMP
SOAH!

SOAH!
BTAMM BTAMM
광광
WHO IS IT?
끼익
SQUEEE
SOAH.

.....
DONG-YOUNG...
I RAN TO YOUR HOUSE WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE BACK.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW SHOCKED I WAS WHEN I HEARD YOUR FATHER TRADED YOU FOR MONEY?
I'M SORRY.
YOU HAVE NO REASON TO BE SORRY. IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.
ANYWAY, I'M GLAD YOU CAME BACK SAFELY.

투둑
PIP PLIP
!
FWUMMP
THINGS MUST'VE BEEN TERRIBLE FOR YOU!
AH...

I'M SORRY I WASN'T THERE FOR YOU WHEN YOU WERE GOING THROUGH ALL OF IT.
EVERY-THING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
DON'T WORRY.
-SNIFF!-
I SHOULDN'T BE SORRY THAT I AM ALIVE, SHOULD I?
IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR ME TO BE HERE?
I'M SO GLAD YOU MADE IT BACK.

ACTUALLY, THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT I WANTED TO SAY TO YOU-- BUT PERHAPS WE SHOULD TALK LATER.
I'LL GET GOING. YOU SHOULD HEAD INSIDE.
LOOK, IT'S THE *CHEON RIVER.*
(OLD KOREAN LINGO FOR THE MILKY WAY)

IT'S TWINKLING MORE THAN USUAL TONIGHT, ISN'T IT?
I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE WITH SOMEONE.
WHAT'S THIS? I FEEL LIKE I'M MISSING SOMEONE...

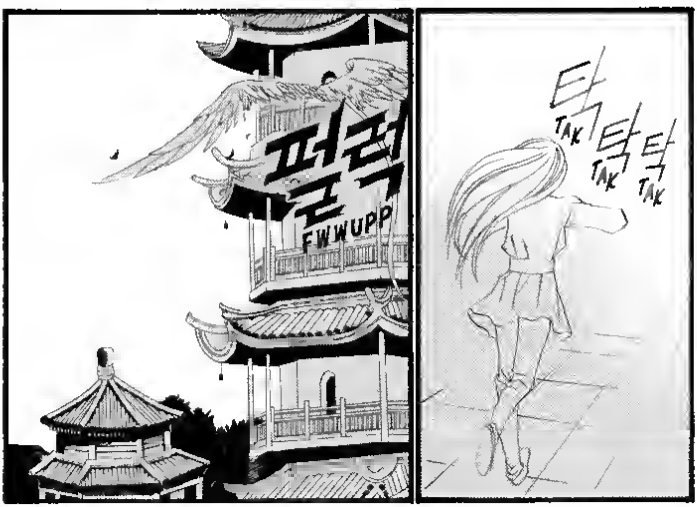
Bride of the Water God

HAAA
WISH

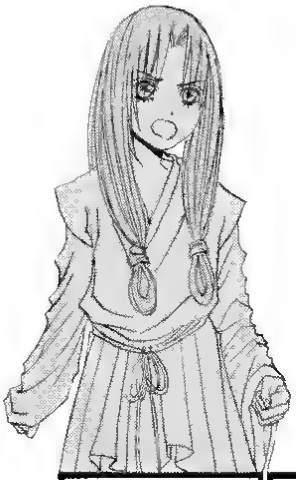
WHAT'S WRONG, SORA?
N- NOTHING.
IT'S JUST... I FELT LIKE I WAS BEING WATCHED.
WSHHAAA

휘이이이
HWWOOSH

화아아앗
FWUPPAAAA


펄럭
FWWUPP
타
TAK
탁
TAK
탁
TAK
MUI!!

WHERE DID YOU TAKE OFF TO BY YOURSELF?



OH... WAIT/

DID YOU GO AND SEE SOAH *ALONE?*

DID YOU? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU!

.....

WHY'D YOU SEND HER BACK?

WHY? HUH?

WHY? HUH?/

ENOUGH OUT OF YOU.

.....

I HEARD THAT YOU FAINTED THE OTHER DAY AFTER YOUR DRINK WAS TAINTED WITH SOME KIND OF DRUG.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. SOMEBODY WAS JUST PLAYING A LITTLE TRICK FOR FUN.
OF COURSE HE DOESN'T. IT'S AN HERBAL REMEDY FROM A PLANT THAT'S GROWN ONLY IN THE GARDEN OF THE GODS, OVERSEEN BY *YUK-OH.*
EVEN TAE-EUL-JIN-IN DOESN'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF DRUG IT IS.

AND IT'S SAID THAT THOSE HERBS HELP BRING OUT THE DEEPEST SECRETS FROM INSIDE ONESELF.
WHAPP
YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT IT, DON'T YOU?
OF COURSE I KNOW ABOUT IT-- I ORDERED IT.
AND I CAN SEE THROUGH FACES THAT HIDE SECRETS.
THE GIRL WAS LYING.
THINGS WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE FUN IF CHEONG-JO HADN'T MADE A MISTAKE.
SO--
--WHAT DID YOU SEE?
DID YOU MEET THE LADY YOU HAVE BEEN LONGING FOR?

HOW ABOUT A SMALL WAGER?

IS THERE SOMEONE OUT THERE?
I'M RIGHT HERE, MUNYEO-NIM.
A VISION! I'VE RECEIVED ANOTHER REVELATION.
GATHER EVERYONE! GO!
HURRY!
AH, YES!

VWNNN
.....
HMPF! YOU'RE WRONG.
KRRTCH
FWSH
IT'S BEEN A LONG WHILE SINCE ANY OF YOUR PRAYERS HAVE REACHED THE GODS, OLD WOMAN.
SHFWOOSH
WE'VE BEEN WITHOUT RAIN FOR A WHILE NOW.
THE CATTLE STARVE, THE PADDIES CRACK FROM THE DROUGHT, AND FAMINE CREEPS IN.
THE PEOPLE ARE STRICKEN WITH PANIC...

.....
N-NO...
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT...
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, SO DON'T WORRY, OKAY?
THIS IS STRANGE.
ARE THE GODS PUNISHING US FOR SOMETHING?

SOAH... WELL... I WAS GOING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING THE OTHER DAY...
AH!
BRUSH
SORRY ABOUT THAT...
HUH? YOU WERE SAYING ...?
OH, NOTHING... NEVER MIND. HEH HEH!

THERE SHE IS!
I FOUND THE GIRL!!
?!
ARE YOU SOAH?
YOU NEED TO COME WITH US.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I CAN'T JUST LET HER GO WITH YOU, UNLESS YOU GIVE ME A GOOD REA SON.

WE DON'T HAVE TA EXPLAIN ANYTHING!
JUST GET HER!!
WE HAVE NO TIME!!!
STOP!!
LET ME EXPLAIN.
AS I AM SURE YOU ALL HAVE NOTICED--
--WE'VE BEEN CURSED WITH A DROUGHT AGAIN.
MUNYEO-NIM HAS BEEN PRAYING FOR RAIN.

SHE RECEIVED A REVELATION.
?!
GOD WILL GIVE US RAIN AGAIN-- IF WE KILL THE GIRL WHO IS THE BRIDE OF HABAEK.

WHY SHOULD SOAH BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THIS?
ARE YOU CRAZY?
HAVE YOU GONE INSANE?
WHAT?
덥썩
SNATCH!
I DARE YOU TO SAY THAT AGAIN, YOU MORON !!!

DO YOU HAVE A SOLUTION?
WE'RE TRYING TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO MAKE THE BEST OF OUR SITUATION.

YOU PEOPLE AREN'T DOING ANYTHING.
YOU'RE JUST STICKING THE BLAME AND RESPONSIBILITY ON THIS LITTLE GIRL! SHAME ON YOU!!

FWKNNCH
THUD
UNNF!
WE'RE GONNA KILL YOU, TOO!!!

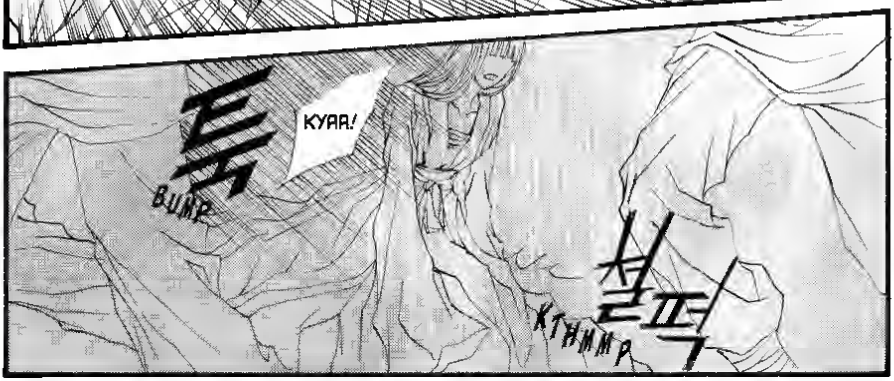
NO!!!
STOP!
SHUT UP!!!
W-K-R-A-K-K
EYAA!
툭
PLIP
HUH?
?

꾸르르릉
KRAKKA
KOOM
번쩍
KZZZAAKK
쏴아아아
FSHAAAA

Tsss
RAIN...

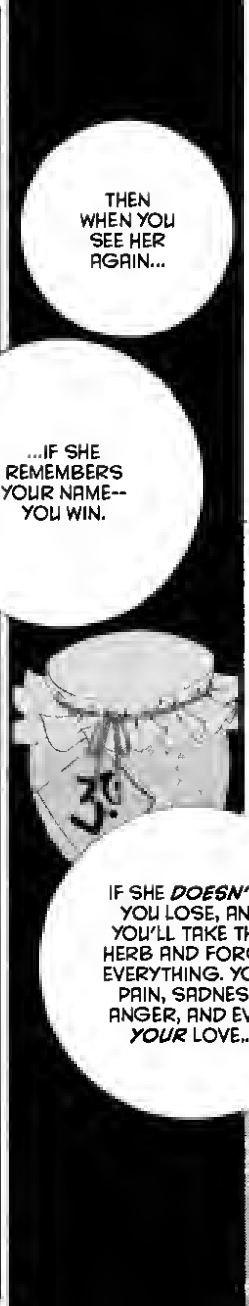
IT'S RAIN!!
IT'S RAINING!!
SOAH...!!

HFF!
SOAH!!


KYAA!
BUMP
KTHMM P

YOU ASK ME WHEN I WILL LEAVE,
BUT I CANNOT PROMISE YOU ANYTHING.
THE RAINS POUR UPON PA-MOUNTAIN AT NIGHT,
WHICH WILL SLAKE THE AUTUMN FIELDS' THIRST.
I WONDER WHEN I WILL ONCE AGAIN
BE ABLE TO PUT A CANDLE IN THE WEST WINDOW
AND TALK ABOUT THE NIGHTS OF RAIN
ON PA-MOUNTAIN.
ONE RAINY NIGHT LETTER
ATTENTION: MY LOVER IN THE NORTH

GIVE THE GIRL MANGGAK-CHO AND SEND HER HOME, FORGETTING ALL OF HER MEMORIES HERE. LET HER GET BACK TO HER LIFE...


THEN WHEN YOU SEE HER AGAIN...
...IF SHE REMEMBERS YOUR NAME-- YOU WIN.
IF SHE *DOESN'T*-- YOU LOSE, AND YOU'LL TAKE THIS HERB AND FORGET EVERYTHING. YOUR PAIN, SADNESS, ANGER, AND EVEN *YOUR* LOVE...

SO? WHAT HAP-PENED?
THE BRUTAL DRAGON GOD'S BEEN KILLED? RIGHT?
YES. THE PRINCE KILLED THE BRUTAL DRAG-ON GOD, WHO SHIELDED THE RAIN CLOUDS FROM THE VILLAGE WITH HIS MIGHTY WINGS.
SO THE PEOPLE CAN FINALLY REJOICE AFTER THIS DROUGHT... AND NO MORE GIRLS MUST BE SACRIFICED.
DID THE PRINCESS WHO WAS GOING TO BE SACRIFICED MARRY THE PRINCE THEN? DID SHE?

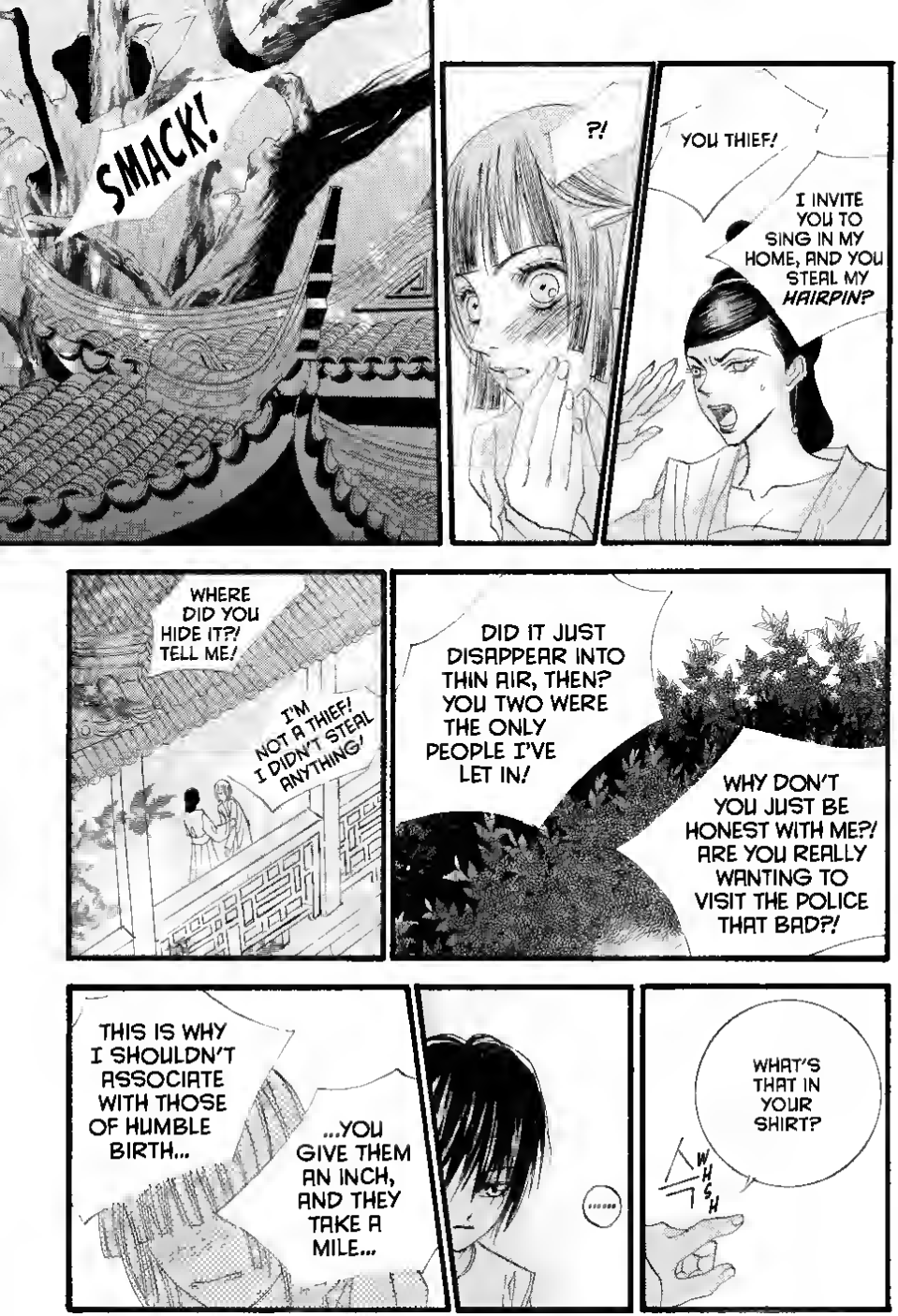
OF COURSE...
...AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
WHAT IS THE LESSON FROM TODAY'S STORY?
GRAB
?
PLING
HEH HEH HEH
THE ANSWER IS...
TA-DA!
...WE ALL NEED TO PREPARE OUR GOOD-LUCK CHARMS FOR DISASTER!
A DROUGHT IS *NOTHING* FOR THOSE WHO HAVE THIS FLYING-DRAGON CHARM!
UGH! NO! WHAT A CHARLA-TAN!
LET'S GO HOME.
WE DON'T NEED THIS GAR-BAGE!

HMPF! I HATE KIDS! THEY'RE TOO SMART THESE DAYS.
THEY SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST THANKED ME WITH A PENNY FOR MY SONG. I JUST WASTED MY TIME.
HEYYY, KIDDO! HOW ABOUT YOU? I CAN GIVE YOU A DISCOUNT.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY NOW, I CAN GIVE YOU CREDIT.
.....
→SIGH!←
ANOTHER UNLUCKY DAY. I HOPE I CAN BUY SOMETHING TO EAT SOON.
LATER, KIDDO!

WHSH
SWISH
척
PIP
찰랑
찰랑
PLIP
저벅
TOK
저벅
TOK
우뚝
PAUSE
저벅
TOK
TOK 저벅
TOK
저벅
TOK
저벅
TOK
저벅
TOK
저벅
TOK
휙
SPIN
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOW-ING ME?!!

-SIGH/-
SO... WHAT YOU'RE TRYIN' TO SAY IS...
...YOU HAVE NO MONEY, NO FAMILY, NO RELATIVES, AND NOWHERE TO STAY...
...AND YOU FOLLOWED ME BECAUSE YOU WERE HUNGRY?
.....
.....
.....
SLOW DOWN, YOU LITTLE PIGGY!!
.....
WELL, FINE. I DON'T WANT TO BE KNOWN AS A PERSON WHO ABANDONS LITTLE STRAY KIDS.
BUT YOU STILL OWE ME MONEY FOR ALL THIS FOOD, GOT IT?! SO YOU'RE GONNA WORK IT OFF FOR ME.
I'M ACTUALLY AN *ARTIST*, DESPITE WHAT YOU MAY THINK WHEN YOU FIRST LOOK AT ME. SOMETIMES, I GET LUCKY AND GET TO SING FOR A RICH FAMILY AND MAKE A LOT OF MONEY.
RIGHT NOW... I'M IN DEBT AND PRETTY POOR, BUT SOMEDAY I'LL BE KNOWN ACROSS THE LAND FOR MY SONGS.
AS A TRINKET PEDDLER?
THAT'S ONLY MY SIDE JOB!
OH, AND BY THE WAY, I AM *YEON-HWA*. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
.....

HUYE...
OKAY, THEN, HUYE.
WHAT KINDS O' SONGS DO YOU LIKE? HERE'S A SAD LOVE SONG FOR YOU.
TRRINNG
IT'S HARD TO BE TOGETHER, BUT HARDER TO BE APART.
THE EASTERN WINDS WEAKEN, AND THE FLOWERS' COLORS FADE.
THE SPRING SILKWORMS STOP MAKING THREADS,
A SIGNAL OF THEIR DEATH.
CANDLES STOP DRIPPING THEIR WAXEN TEARS
AS THEY TURN TO ASH.
EVERY MORNING AT DAWN, I STARE INTO THE MIRROR AND
PULL BACK MY EARS, LOOKING FOR NEW GRAY HAIRS.
SINGING ABOUT THE NIGHT, AND FEELING THE COLDNESS
OF THE MOONLIGHT.
BONG-RAE MOUNTAIN LOOMS CLOSELY NEARBY.
CHEONG-JO! PLEASE SEARCH FOR MY LOVER.
—"UNTITLED" BY LEE SANG-EUN


SMACK!
?!
YOU THIEF!
I INVITE YOU TO SING IN MY HOME, AND YOU STEAL MY HAIRPIN?
WHERE DID YOU HIDE IT?! TELL ME!
I'M NOT A THIEF! I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING!
DID IT JUST DISAPPEAR INTO THIN AIR, THEN? YOU TWO WERE THE ONLY PEOPLE I'VE LET IN!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST BE HONEST WITH ME?! ARE YOU REALLY WANTING TO VISIT THE POLICE THAT BAD?!
THIS IS WHY I SHOULDN'T ASSOCIATE WITH THOSE OF HUMBLE BIRTH...
...YOU GIVE THEM AN INCH, AND THEY TAKE A MILE...
.....
WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR SHIRT?
WHSH

THERE'S NOTHING IN MY-- WAIT A--
WHSH
PLIK
HNN?
WAIT...THAT WASN'T THERE A MINUTE AGO. I DIDN'T PUT IT THERE...
HMPF! WHATEVER-- GET OUT!
BTAMM!
DON'T YOU TWO EVER COME NEAR MY HOUSE AGAIN!
UGH...
I CAN'T BELIEVE HER! SHE ACCUSES AN INNOCENT PERSON AND DOESN'T EVEN BOTHER APOLO-GIZING!
I'M POOR, BUT IT'S NOT SOMETHING I SHOULD FEEL GUILTY ABOUT. HOW CAN SHE JUST TREAT ME LIKE SOME BEGGAR? I *WORK.*
.....
WELL, ANY-WAY...
WAS THAT... DID YOU PUT IT IN HER SHIRT?
.....

FINE, I STOLE IT! BUT CAN YOU BLAME ME?!
IS IT BAD THAT I TAKE JUST A LITTLE FROM THOSE WITH SO MUCH?!
THE...THE RICH HAVE THEIR THINGS BECAUSE OF THE BLOOD AND SWEAT OF THE POOR TO BEGIN WITH.
IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'LL STARVE IF SHE DOESN'T HAVE HER HAIRPIN!
.....
ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT! I WILL NEVER STEAL ANY-THING AGAIN, OKAY?
BUT WHAT IF IT WAS SOMETHING THAT WAS DROPPED ON THE GROUND? LIKE IF SOMEONE DROPPED A HAIRPIN OR A GOLDEN INGOT?
....

?!
WHA-- WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, MISTER?!
LOOK. WE BOTH GET SOMETHING WE WANT OUTTA THIS!
IF YOU BE A *NICE GIRL,* I'LL WIPE OUT ALL OF YOUR DEBTS TO ME.
COME ANY CLOSER, AND I'LL SCREAM.
GO AHEAD! DO IT! SCREAM!
I'LL SIMPLY HAVE YOU CHARGED WITH THEFT AND THROWN IN JAIL.
!!
I MEAN, WHO DO YOU THINK PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE? ME? OR YOU-- A SIMPLE BURGLAR WHO MASQUERADES AS A SINGER?
KTAK
NO...
NO!!
KRUNCH

YOU...LITTLE BRAT...
SHWAAA...
TOK 저벅 TOK

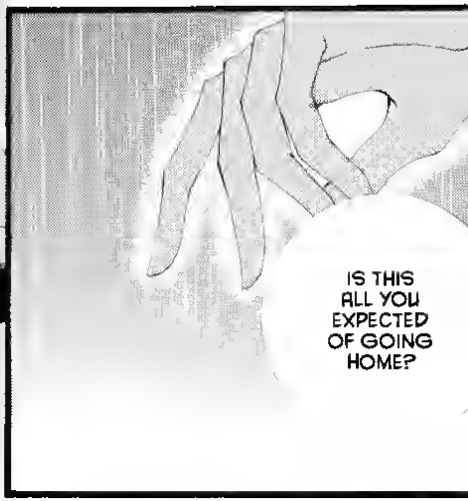
NO, I'M HUYE'S FRIEND.
HUYE'S NOT AROUND TONIGHT.
HEH HEH! THAT LITTLE SNOT HAS A FRIEND, THEN?
SHWAA
WSHAA
WHO IS THAT? HUYE?
SORRY, I'M A MESS, AREN'T I?
I GOT CAUGHT STEALING, AND THEY BEAT ME FOR IT...
I KNOW YOU DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING.

HEH HEH! YOU...ARE KINDA WEIRD.
NO ONE EVER BELIEVES WHAT I SAY.
HEY... WILL YOU PLEASE GIVE HUYE A MESSAGE?
TELL HIM I'M SORRY-- BUT I CAN'T TRAVEL WITH HIM ANYMORE... AND...
...TRULY... I *DIDN'T* STEAL ANYTHING THIS TIME.
.....!
WILL YOU PLEASE TELL HIM THAT I KEPT MY PROMISE?

크르르릉..
KRAKKAKOOM

FSHAAAAA...

STUPID. WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?


IS THIS ALL YOU EXPECTED OF GOING HOME?

I KNOW IT'S DIFFICULT.
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT I ALWAYS WONDER ABOUT, AND...
...I JUST DON'T GET IT. HUMANS.
SOMETIMES WHEN THEY LOOK WEAK, THEY'RE ACTUALLY QUITE STRONG...
WILL YOU PLEASE GIVE HUYE MY MESSAGE?
...AND THOSE THAT APPEAR STRONG ARE OFTEN THE MOST FRAGILE. THAT ALWAYS CONFOUNDS ME.
SOAH!

?!
FWMM
DONG-YOUNG?
?

FSHAAAA
WE'RE LUCKY THAT IT RAINED LIKE THAT...
...BUT WE MIGHT NOT BE SO LUCKY NEXT TIME.
YEAH...
BY THE WAY, THAT GUY WAS A LITTLE STRANGE.
I THINK THAT HE HAD ME CONFUSED WITH SOMEONE ELSE HE KNOWS.

BUT HE LOOKED AT ME WITH SAD, KNOWING EYES...

.....

WAS THAT A PERSON?
IT'S RAINING HARD... YET HE WAS DRY AS A BONE.

AND...
...I WAS NERVOUS... BECAUSE YOU WERE LIKELY TO FOLLOW HIM AND LEAVE ME.

SOAH.
WILL YOU MARRY ME?
?!

I HAVE BEEN WANTING TO ASK YOU SINCE YOU RETURNED.
NO... ACTUALLY, I HAVE BEEN REGRETTING THAT I NEVER ASKED YOU SOONER.
IF I PROPOSED TO YOU *EARLIER*...
...YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN CHOSEN TO BE THE BRIDE OF THE WATER GOD...
SORRY THAT I WAS TOO LATE.
WILL YOU MARRY ME?

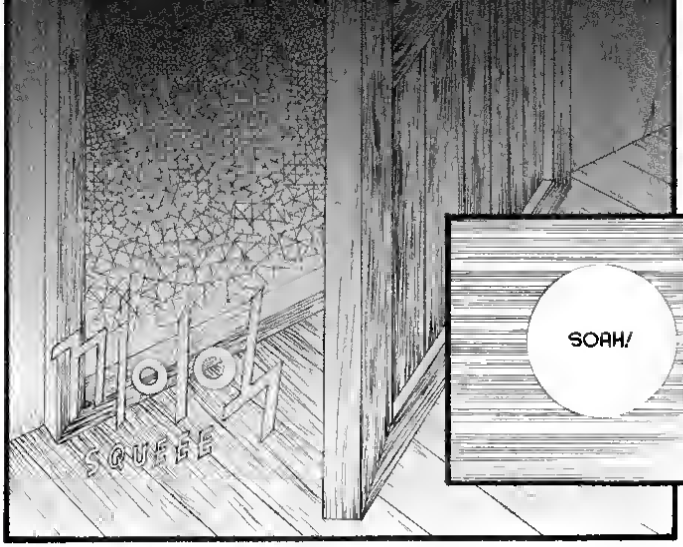
WELL... I KNOW... I'M SUPPOSED TO PROPOSE THROUGH A MATCHMAKER, BUT...
...OF... OF COURSE, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO MARRY ME...I'M NOT TRYING TO FORCE YOU... IT'S...
...UMM... I MEAN...
THANK YOU.

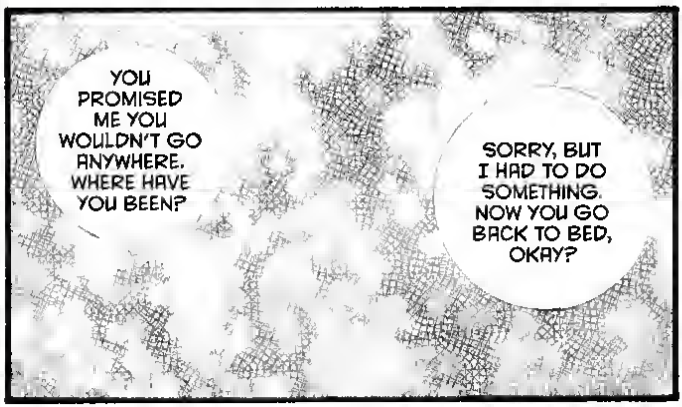
YOU MEAN...?
YOU'RE ASKING ME TO MARRY YOU BECAUSE YOU FEEL *PITY* FOR ME, RIGHT?
BECAUSE I THINK THAT'S THE KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE.
IT'S THE *THOUGHT* OF IT THAT MEANS SO MUCH TO ME...
P!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT FOR ME.
NO.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.

I'VE BEEN IMAGINING YOU...
...ON YOUR WEDDING DAY...
...AND I'VE BEEN DREAMING THAT IT COULD BE *ME* STANDING NEXT TO YOU.

I LIKE YOU VERY MUCH.
JUST LIKE I'D CARE FOR MY BROTHER.
I MEAN IT... YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME.
BESIDES, I'M ALREADY MARRIED TO HABAEK.

IS THIS...
...BECAUSE OF SOMETHING ELSE?
LIKE...YOU HAVE *SOMEONE ELSE* IN MIND...?
N-NO, IT'S NOT.
OR YOU DON'T LIKE ME?
OF COURSE NOT!
THAT'S FINE, THEN.
I WON'T GIVE UP ON YOU.
?!


SOAH!

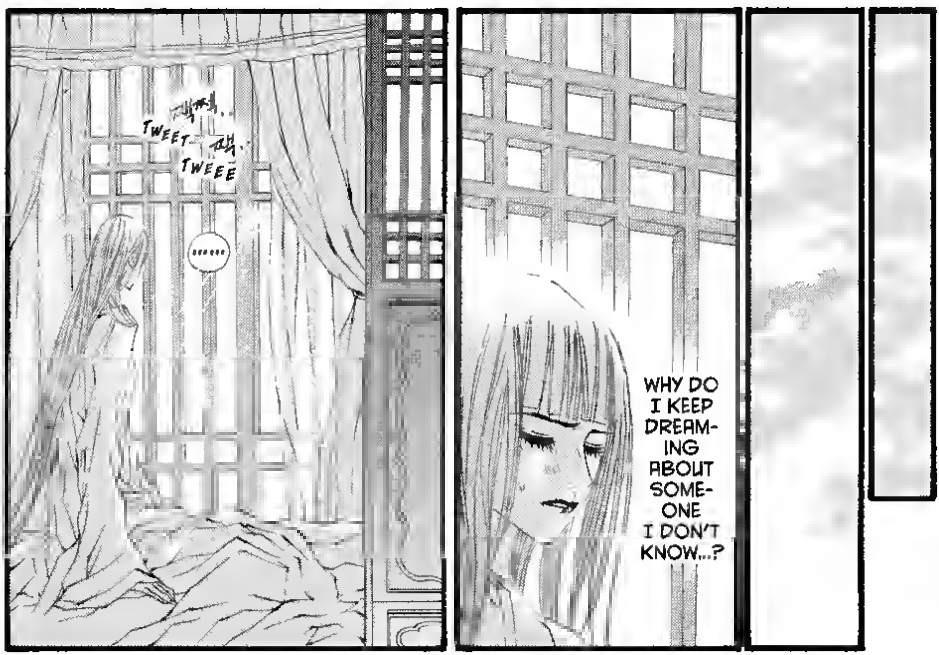

YOU PROMISED ME YOU WOULDN'T GO ANYWHERE. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
SORRY, BUT I HAD TO DO SOMETHING. NOW YOU GO BACK TO BED, OKAY?

WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I USED TO ALWAYS SAY THAT I WOULD BE DONG-YOUNG'S BRIDE...
"IS THIS BECAUSE OF SOMETHING ELSE?
"LIKE... YOU HAVE SOMEONE ELSE IN MIND...?"

I WONDER WHAT THE PERSON WHO GAVE THIS TO ME IS LIKE...
I'M AFRAID TO GET MY MEMORIES BACK, BUT I WANT TO MEET THE ONE WHO GAVE THIS TO ME.
HE MUST BE A KIND PERSON.
SLOWLY STEPPING TOWARD ME... HOLDING OUT HIS HAND... AND THEN...

YOU IDIOT.

FWMP
!


TWEET
TWEEE
.....
WHY DO I KEEP DREAM-ING ABOUT SOME-ONE I DON'T KNOW...?

IS SORH DOING OKAY? I'M KIND OF WORRIED...
HABAEK'S BAD. HE WENT TO SEE HER BY HIMSELF...
YOU GUYS DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT HER.
SPSH PLISH
촬랑
SHE HAS SOMEONE TO LOOK AFTER HER.
OH... THAT'S WHY HE'S IN A BAD MOOD.
?
IS SORH *CHEATING* ON HIM?

YOU MEAN SHE DUMPED HABAEK?
퍼벅
SPAKK

촤아악
SPSHWAAA
GYAA! COLD!! HABAEK, WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?!
HEH!
I WISH HE'D BE HONEST.
WELL, HE IS CUTE, THOUGH...

BTAMM
FATHER...? WERE YOU OUT DRINKING AGAIN? YOU HAD SO MUCH YESTERDAY...
DON'T TELL ME HOW TO RUN THINGS, YOU SPOILED BRAT!
HWOOSH
움찔
FLINCH
HMPF
.....
SOAH. YOU HATE ME, DON'T YOU?

N-NO, FATHER... I...
I KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL. I'M SORRY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE I PUT YOU THROUGH.
IT'S NOT LIKE I SENT YOU AWAY BECAUSE I DIDN'T LIKE YOU.
IF I WERE RICH...
...I WOULD'VE GIVEN YOU NICE FOOD AND NICE CLOTHES. BUT YOU LOOK GREAT IN WHATEVER YOU WEAR, BECAUSE YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL...
FATHER...
COULD YOU COOK UP SOME OF THOSE *DUMPLINGS* YOU USED TO MAKE FOR ME ALL THE TIME...?

NO-- NEVER MIND.
I'LL BE BACK SOON.
IT'S OKAY. I CAN GO SHOPPING FOR THE INGREDIENTS.
HEY THERE, YOUNG MISS!

WHY DON'T YOU JUST COME ALONG WITH US.
BE NICE. DON'T PUT UP A FUSS.
FWAPP
NO! LET GO OF ME!
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE UNLESS I GET AN EXPLANATION.
YOU'RE QUITE THE YOUNG LADY. I HEARD THAT YOUR DAD HAD YOU SACRIFICED... AND SOMEHOW YOU MADE IT BACK. YOU'RE QUITE A BRAVE GIRL.
OKAY, LOOK. HERE'S THE SCORE...
YOUR DAD BORROWED MONEY FROM US AGAIN.

I HOPE YOU *GET* WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO SAY...
YOUR DAD *SOLD YOU* FOR MONEY AGAIN, JUST LIKE HE DID BEFORE!

BRIDE of the WATER GOD

"It's been a while, hasn't it, Habaek?"

THUMP
DAMN YOU! HOW DARE YOU BITE ME?!
SERIOUSLY! HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET A LITTLE GIRL UNDER CONTROL?!
"YOUR DAD SOLD YOU FOR MONEY AGAIN..."
THAT CAN'T BE TRUE.
THEY'RE LYING!

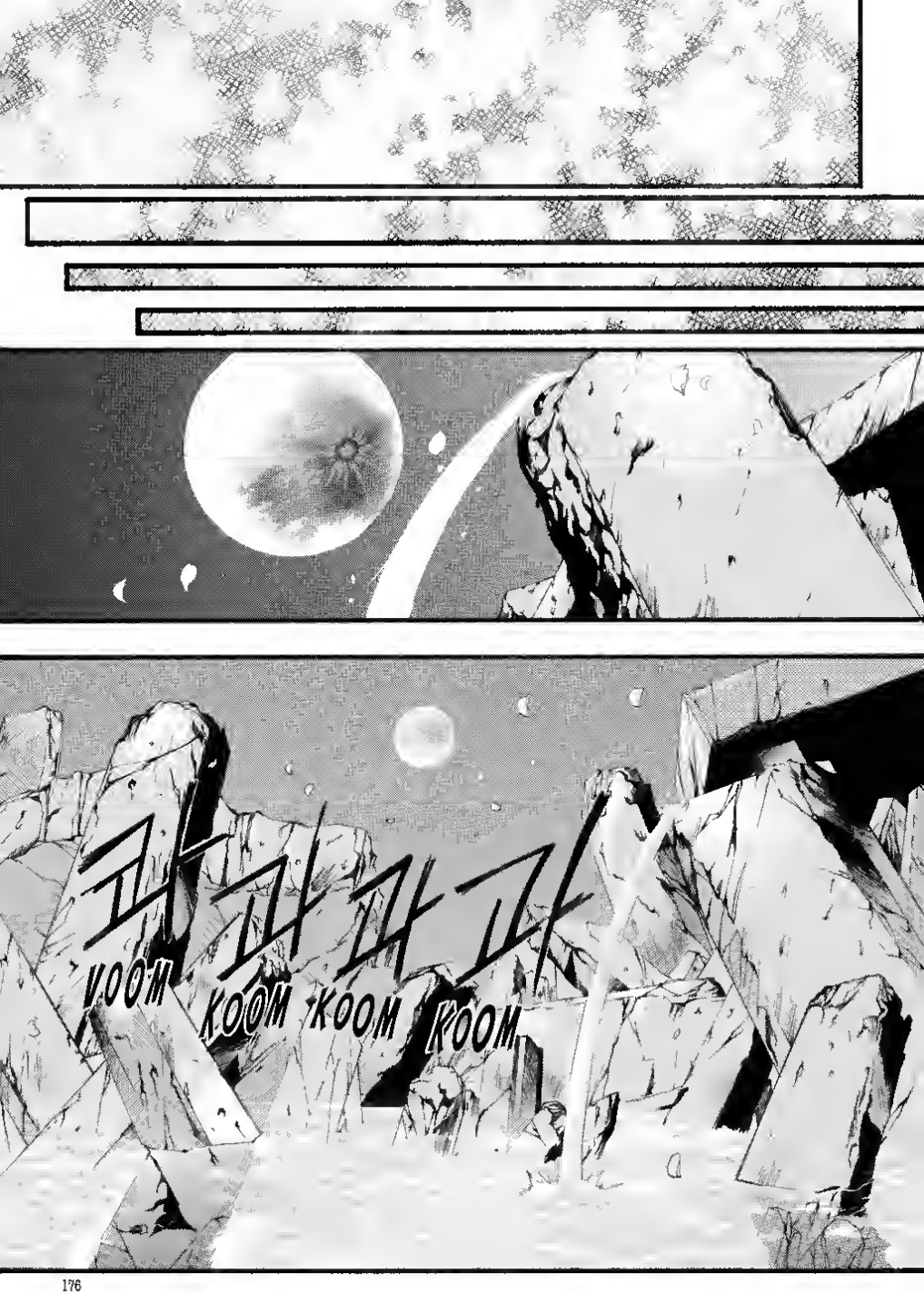
COULD YOU COOK UP SOME OF THOSE *DUMPLINGS* YOU USED TO MAKE FOR ME ALL THE TIME...?
FATHER...
I TOLD YOU YOU'D BETTER BE A NICE GIRL.
SO WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO WITH HER, ANYWAY?
WELL, WE NEED TO SELL HER, OF COURSE... AS A MAID OR GISAENG.*
SORRY, GIRL.

*GISAENG: KOREAN GEISHA

IT'S NOT OUR CHOICE. THIS IS JUST A JOB.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO BLAME SOMEONE, BLAME YOUR DAD.
GUYS, WE REALLY DON'T HAVE TO BE NICE TO HER!
YOU KNOW, THE TOUGHER YOU TREAT 'EM, THE BETTER THEY TURN OUT.
SHE NEEDS TO KNOW HER *PLACE* IN THE WORLD.
YOU AGREE WITH US, RIGHT?
EH?!

YAIEEEEE!
WHAT?! WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT HAP-PENED?
?

SPOOSHAAA
AH!
EEYAAAH!
WHAT?! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!


KOOM KOOM KOOM KOOM

SPLISH

WHO IS IT?

WHO ARE YOU?

HWOOSH

FWISH

DID YOU CAST A SPELL ON THE COMB? SO IT WOULD LET YOU KNOW IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HER...?

WHY WOULD YOU DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT? YOU TOLD ME THAT SHE MEANS NOTHING TO YOU.
NO... I JUST MADE A BET WITH SOMEONE.
THEN WHEN YOU SEE HER AGAIN...

...IF SHE REMEMBERS YOUR NAME...
...DONG-YOUNG?
...

SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER...
WAIT.
HE ISN'T DONG-YOUNG.
THEN... WHO IS HE?
WHO ARE YOU?
SO STRANGE.
IT FEELS LIKE I'VE KNOWN HIM FOR A LONG TIME.

WAIT...
DON'T GO...
PLEASE DON'T GO...
MUI!
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP

WHY AM I CRY--
SOAH!
SOAH! ARE YOU OKAY?
처벅
SPSH
처벅
SPSH
I WENT TO YOUR HOUSE AND HEARD THAT YOU DISAPPEARED, SO I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU ALL DAY.
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED? WERE YOU HURT?
DONG-YOUNG...

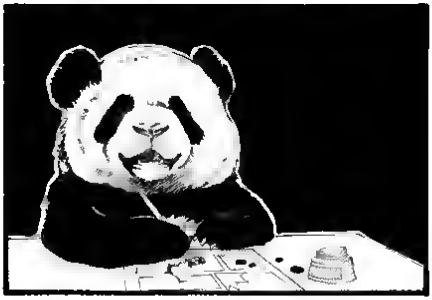
...I WILL MARRY YOU.

EPILOGUE . . .

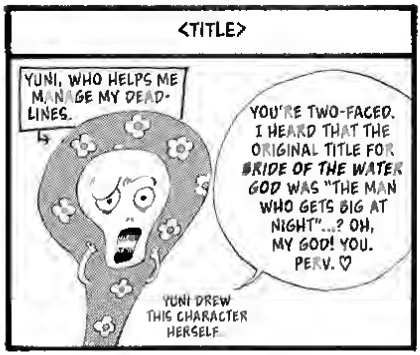
MUI'S CONCEPT AT AN EARLY STAGE.
HE LOOKS YOUNGER THAN WHAT YOU SEE NOW.

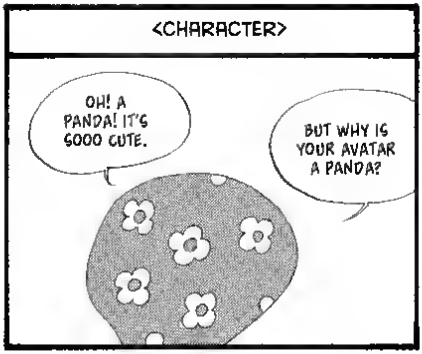
<HELP>
IT'S A VERY SIMPLE JOB--EVEN KIDS CAN DO IT. YOU JUST INK WHERE I PUT AN 'X' LIKE *HERE* AND *THERE*.
AH OK I THINK I CAN DO IT

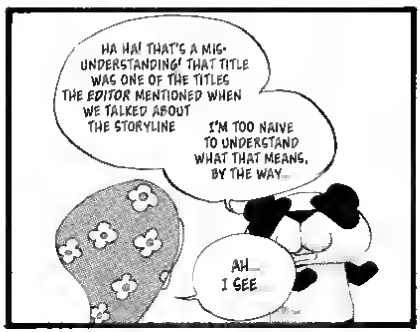
AND *THEN*, ON THE NEXT PAGE, PLEASE PENCIL HABAEK WEARING THOSE CLOTHES WITH THE DRAGON AND PHOENIX EMBROIDERY, AS HE STANDS IN FRONT OF THE MAGNIFICENT SUGUK AND INK IT, TOO.
WHAT?
!!
.....

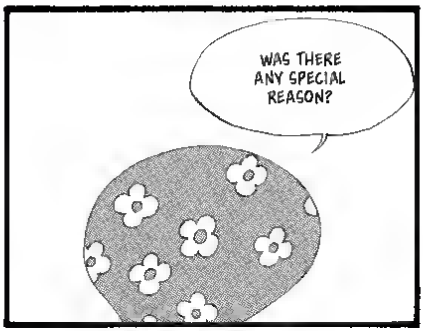


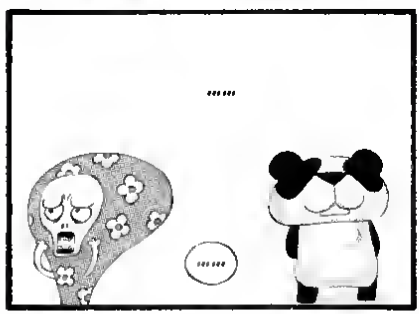
HA HA! JUST KIDDING!
DANGEROUS.. SHE IS .. SERIOUS!!

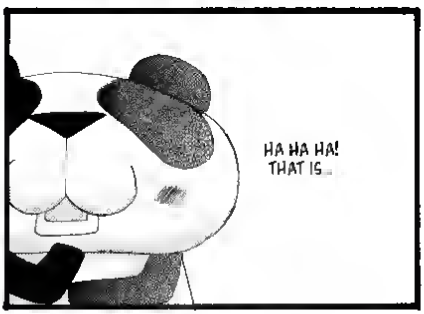

<TITLE>
YUNI, WHO HELPS ME MANAGE MY DEADLINES.
YOU'RE TWO-FACED. I HEARD THAT THE ORIGINAL TITLE FOR *BRIDE OF THE WATER GOD* WAS "THE MAN WHO GETS BIG AT NIGHT"...? OH, MY GOD! YOU. PERV. ♡
YUNI DREW THIS CHARACTER HERSELF.

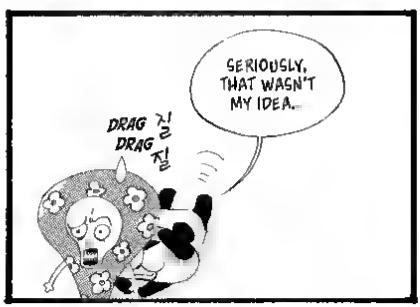



HA HA! THAT'S A MISUNDERSTANDING! THAT TITLE WAS ONE OF THE TITLES THE *EDITOR* MENTIONED WHEN WE TALKED ABOUT THE STORYLINE
I'M TOO NAIVE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT MEANS, BY THE WAY...
AH... I SEE...

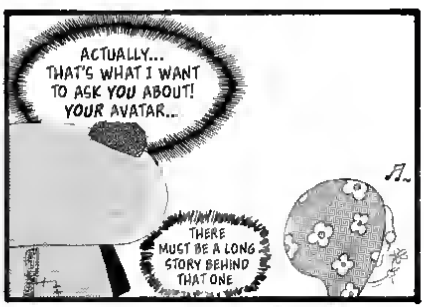








IT REALLY WASN'T.



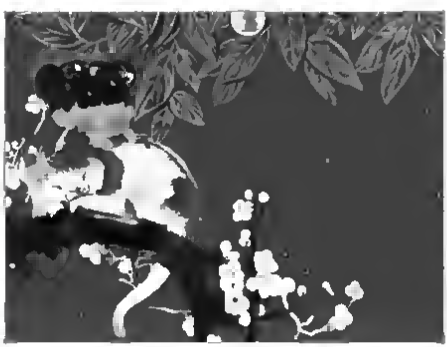
EPILOGUE / END

YUNI IS BEAUTIFUL IN REAL LIFE.

This is the third volume of *Bride of the Water God*, and it's also my sixth collection as a manhwa creator. The more volumes that are released, the better my skills should be. Sadly, though, that doesn't seem to be the case. However, anyway I look at it, I am encouraged by the fans out there who tell me that they've enjoyed my work.

I wish all of you great happiness!

—Mi-Kyung Yun



CREATOR PROFILE

Born on October 14, 1980. Majored in Animation at Mokwon University.

Received the silver medal for Seoul Media Group's "Shin-in-gong-mo-jeon" ("New Artist Debut Competition") for *Na-eu Jt-gu Bang-moon-gi* (*The Journey of My Earth Visit*) in 2003.

Received a "Shin-in-sang" ("Best New Artist") award from the Dokja-manhwa-daesang organization for *Railroad* in 2004.

Currently publishing *Bride of the Water God* serially in the Korean comics magazine *Wink*.

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윤미경

Mi-Kyung Yun

3

BRIDE of the WATER GOD

Korean writer/artist Mi-Kyung Yun takes us on another journey to Habaek's kingdom, where the cursed Water God tries to hide his dark secrets from his new bride! Drama, humor, and a bit of horror combine, as human bride Soah tries to uncover the truth behind her strange husband's predicament and his previous wife's early, brutal demise. Soah is determined to find out why her powerful, moody husband is cursed to live in the form of a little boy during the day, returning to his true, adult body at night. Her inner strength and determination saved her village from a terrible drought in previous volumes—now Soah must pit her guts and guile against the unpredictable elemental gods, including her new husband—who has a surprising request and an even more surprising visitor!

Bride of the Water God, with its enchanting, romantic storyline and elaborate, breathtaking artwork, is one of Korea's top-selling *sunjeong* manhwa (similar to the *shojo* manga genre).

DARK HORSE MANHWA